

INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY STAFF

09 October 1980

Staff Directive #32

TRANSMITTAL OF SCI MATERIAL VIA  
COMMERCIAL AIRLINES

1. The following information is provided concerning transmittal of SCI material via commercial airlines. The guidance concerning this issue is covered in DCID 1/19 and the following interpretation has been provided by the DCI's Security Committee.

- ° This provided the requested interpretation of DCID 1/19 with regard to who can authorize the carrying of Sensitive Compartmented Information (SCI) on commercial flights, and to whether contractors may be authorized to so carry SCI.
- ° DCID 1/19 provides in Section 2.j (2) that:
  - "SCI shall be transmitted . . . by two SCI couriers approved for this purpose . . . Transmittal of SCI via commercial aircraft not under U.S. Government or military charter is prohibited. The Departmental SIO must specifically approve all exceptions." and
  - "Couriering of SCI by contractor employees is prohibited except when specifically approved by an Intelligence Community SIO or an Executive Agent/Operational Program Manager."
- ° The intent of the DCID was to prohibit commercial flights by individuals carrying SCI material. The DCID recognizes that exceptional cases may need to be provided for by allowing a certain latitude. However, authorization for exceptions must come from the highest authority and may not be delegated. Such authorization can only come from an SIO, applies only to a person or persons he is responsible for, and is good only for a specified trip in every instance.

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- Subject to the conditions stated in 2 above, we hold that SIO's are authorized to grant one-time approvals for the carrying of SCI on commercial flights, and that such approvals may be granted to contractors under the cognizance of the SIO's involved. It is our understanding that both the Deputies to the DCI for Resource Management and for Collection Tasking are considered to be SIO's. Therefore, they, or their deputies acting for them in their absence, may personally authorize exceptions on one-time basis for staff members or contractors under their jurisdiction. It is suggested that in all cases where such exceptions are granted that a record be made in advance of the travel showing specifically what SCI documents or materials are to be couriered.

2. For further assistance or clarification on the above, please contact Chief, Security/RMS-CTS, or Chief, Registry.



Chief, Administrative Staff

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